

<p>Bernd Rohrmann 2009 Workshop</p>		<p>Memo #1 <i>updated</i> 07-03-09</p>
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Workshop April 2009
"Physiological & socio-psychological risks from loud music in public venues"
First announcement

WHAT IS 2M3R ?

It is a bi-annual workshop to which I invite a small group of researchers and practitioners interested in the "psychology of risk", societal risk problems and risk management. Each event is focussed on a topic which is multidisciplinary, complex by nature, and provoking contradictory interpretation. The mode is: brief presentation of findings or viewpoints, then intensive discussion, and finally a summary statement about core insights and suggestions for future proceeding.

THE TOPIC IN 2009

In 2009, an unusual issue will be dealt with: "*Is loud music in public venues (such as pubs, cafes, restaurants, gyms, shops) a physiological and/or a socio-psychological hazard which puts people at risk?*" This refers to sounds provided by the music systems which are run in most public places; these soundscapes are handled by the venue's management and not under the control of the visitors.

ISSUES TO BE TREATED

This is to be decided soon, and will be adapted to the 2M3R participants. Three issues will be essential in any case: Impacts of loud music in acoustic and medical terms; the effects on social interactions, especially on communication style and intensity; and cross-cultural differences in the acceptance, or not, of music levels which impair how people communicate with each other. See Memo #2 for an outline of topics to be dealt with.

TIMING AND LOCATION

2M3R is a 2-day event and takes place in my Environmental Psychology Lab at Melbourne University in April, the Easter month. Obviously **April 17+18** (Friday + Saturday) is best-suited; the previously considered second option (April 24+25) is not feasible anymore.

By the way, I always connect my 2M3R to exciting events in Melbourne - this time the International Comedy Festival, the International Flower and Garden Show and the International Jazz Festival are due in April.

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